Vol. IX. Numb. 27.

THE OBSERVATOR.

Letters from Gloceſter, Cirenceſter, *and* Tedbury, &c. *with Accounts of the late Rebellious and Tumultuous Practices of the* Faction, *and particularly of their burning the late King* William *in Effigie. A Character of ſome late Addreſſes in thoſe Parts. On the Addreſs of the City of* Gloceſter. *The Blaſphemous Practices of the* Faction *at* Wrexham. *On the Addreſſes of the Honourable Lieutenancy of* London, *and of the Juſtices of Peace,* &c. *of the City and Liberty of* Weſtminſter.

From Saturday, April 15, to Wednesday, April 19. 1710.

Countrym. HEre's a whole Bundle of Letters for you, Mr. *Obſervator*, concerning the Rebellious Behaviour of the Pretender's Churchmen in ſeveral Parts of the Kingdom; and every one preſſes that his may be taken Notice of firſt.

Obſ. The beſt Way to pleaſe them then, *Roger*, is to take Notice of as many of 'em now as we can, therefore pray go on with them.

Countrym. I'll begin with one from *Gloceſter* of the 6th of *April*, Maſter, wherein the Gentleman takes Notice of a late Addreſs, which ſome would have the World to believe there's ſcarce a Gentleman there that diſlikes; but he ſays, 'Tis falſe, and that the Report is ſpread 'on Purpoſe to caſt an *Odium* upon the reſt of 'the Gentlemen of that County, who have 'withſtood the Deſigns of the Pretender's Party; 'and that moſt of the few Subſcribers are Men 'of Reſtleſs Spirits, who long for another Revo'lution. 'Tis well known, he ſays, that the 'H—— S—— was in Cuſtody as a Diſaf'fected Perſon in King *William*'s Reign, and has 'liv'd retir'd till of late. A Leading Man of 'the Grand Jury was in the late Reign found 'guilty of a Barbarous Murther, but by the 'Application of ſome of his Friends to King '*William* was pardon'd; yet he has made good 'the *Engliſh* Proverb, *Save a R—— from the 'Gallows and he'll cut your Throat*; for he has 'rail'd as much againſt our late Royal Deliverer 'as any of his Factious Party, and he has ſince 'been arraign'd at *Oxford* for a Rape. One 'F——n, another of the Grand-Jury, has 'been found guilty of Murther, and moſt of 'the reſt are remarkable enough for ſomething 'elſe than Vertue. The Gentleman adds, 'That Eleven Men of that Town were indited 'for drinking the Pretender's Health, and wiſh'ing Succeſs to him in *Scotland* during the late 'Invaſion, but came off by Her Majeſty's Act 'of Grace; and this Grand Jury herded with 'very few but them, which verifies another Pro'verb, *That Birds of a Feather flock together*. The Gentleman concludes, 'That notwithſtand'ing the Noiſe thoſe Men make, Her Majeſty's 'Friends do by far overtop all the Pretender's Abet'tors, both in the City and County of *Gloceſter*.

Obſ. Theſe Gentlemen were very fit to Copy after *Sacheverel*. *Roger*; Proper Perſons, no doubt, to adviſe the Diſſolution of the preſent Parliament, to undertake for the Choice of another, and to lead the Great Trojan Horſe: I am glad however the City of *Gloceſter* has not follow'd their Example, but on the contrary have ſent an Addreſs, of which I think I may venture to ſay that few in *England* have exceeded it for Senſe, Loyalty, and Handſomneſs of Expreſſion; 'tis much for the Honour of that City, and is a full Proof of what the Gentleman ſays in his Letter, that Her Majeſty's Friends there overtop thoſe of the Pretender.

Countrym. The Second is alſo from *Gloceſter*, Mr. *Obſervator*, but of an older Date, and from another Hand, who gives an Account, 'That when 'the News came of the Mildneſs of the Sentence 'againſt Dr. *Sacheverell*, the Faction got together, 'ſet all the Bells of the Town a Ringing, except 'thoſe of the Colledge, which were out of their 'Power, drank Damnation to all the Diſſenters, 'and Dr. *Sacheverell*'s Health: At Night they 'made a large Bonfire againſt the *Old Crown*, 'where they illuminated all the Windows, 'from whence they fir'd Guns, and threw 'Squibs; ſeveral Perſons who had been 'convicted at the laſt *Lent* Aſſizes there for 'drinking the Pretender's Health, as Rightful 'and Lawful King of *Great Britain* and *Ireland*, 'and for wiſhing him Proſperity, and that he 'migh Overcome and Vanquiſh his Enemies at 'the Time of the late Invaſion, but got off by 'pleading the Act of Grace, run about Streets, 'crying out, *Damn you, put out your Lights, and 'Illuminate for Dr.* Sacheverell, *otherwiſe we will 'break your Windows*; and they inſulted People 'as they went along the Streets to make them 'declare for the Dr.; but the Mayor, and other 'Magiſtrates, who are very Worthy Gentlemen, 'being met together to drink the Health of the 'Queen, Lords and Commons, and Proſperity 'to the Nation, as ſoon as they heard of this 'Rebellious Tumult they went in a Body to the '*Crown*, and diſperſed thoſe diſaffected Rioters, 'who had a Parliament Man in their Company, 'but he ſlipp'd out before the Magiſtrates 'came.

The Third is from *Cirenceſter* in the ſame Country, with an Account, 'That when the 'News of the Dr's Sentence came thither, many 'of the Faction met together, with Young Mr. 'M——s at their Head, who gave them Mo'ney to drink the Queen's Health and Dr. *Sa'cheverell*'s, erected a great Bonfire of ſeveral 'Loads of Wood, illuminated their Houſes; 'and the only profeſſed Papiſt in Town was as 'forward as any Man: Several of thoſe who il'luminated their Houſes were proſecuted at the 'Aſſizes for drinking the Pretender's Health, 'and wiſhing him a Happy Return; but by 'making Friends got off pretty eaſily. During 'their Rebellious Tumults they inſulted the 'Memory of the late King *William*, by ſtuffing a 'Coat with Straw, putting a Hat on it, and 'making ſome Legs to it, then they ſet it on a 'Little Horſe, drove it round the Town till it 'came to the Bonfire; when they made the 'Horſe throw the King, whom they caſt into 'the Fire; then they carried a Youth about 'the Town to repreſent the Pretender, made 'much on't, gave it any Thing it deſir'd, and 'hugg'd it. They alſo made a Repreſentation 'of Mr. *Burges*, with a Tub on his Head, and

'threw

'threw him into the Fire; they rung the Bells 'all Day, got together in Companies, drunk Dr. '*Sacheverell*'s Health and Proſperity, expreſſed 'their Hopes of his being made a Biſhop, threat-'ned to break the Windows of thoſe who would 'not put out Lights, or give Wood towards the 'Bonfire, and had certainly pull'd down the 'Meeting-houſes had it not been for Her Maje-'ſty's Proclamation, and that they heard the 'Mob was ſuppreſſed in *London*.

The Fourth is from *Tedbury* in the ſame Coun-ty, of the 29th of *March*, with an Account, 'That on the *Saturday* before, Four Men who it 'ſeems are truſted with the Town-Stock, met 'with ſome of the Faction, and ſpent 4 *l.* out of 'the ſaid Stock in drinking Dr. *Sacheverell*'s 'Health, and Damnation to Diſſenters; expreſ-'ſed their Sorrow that the *London* Mob was 'ſtopp'd from pulling down the Meeting-houſes; 'and had it not been for the Queen's Proclama-'tion threaten'd to pull down that at *Tedbury*; 'nor is it probable they would have ſtopp'd there, 'for they threaten'd, according to the Language 'of ſome of their Brethren near *Lothbury* in *London*, 'to pull down the Dwelling-houſes of the Diſſen-'ters. There are likewiſe Advices, Mr. that at *Wrexham* in *Denbighſhire* they prophanely mock'd the Holy Sacrament of Baptiſm, and Blaſphe-med the Ever-bleſſed Trinity, by Baptizing in the Name of the Father, Son, and Holy Ghoſt, the Effigies of Mr. *Hoadly*, Dr. *Williams*, and Mr. *Burgeſs*, which they threw into the Fire; and be-cauſe the Reverend Church Miniſter of the Town, who is a Perſon of Worth and Modera-tion, expreſs'd his Diſlike at thoſe Wicked Pra-ctices, they threaten'd him ſo that he durſt not appear Abroad for ſome Days. Now, Mr. *Ob-ſervator*, give me your Opinion of all thoſe Things.

Obſ. Why truly, *Roger*, were it not to let the Poor Deluded People ſee who it is that miſleads them, and to ſet the Faction out in their Proper Colours, nothing could juſtifie the Publiſhing of ſuch Paſſages, which are a Diſgrace to any Civil Nation, and a Scandal to the Chriſtian Name. By all this we may ſee that the late Proceedings of Parliament againſt that Firſt-rate Incendiary, Dr. *Sacheverell*, *were neceſſary*, as Her Majeſty has graciouſly and truly expreſs'd it in Her Speech. Theſe are the beſt Commentaries that could have been made upon the Occaſional Bill, the *Tack*, *Sacheverell*'s, Sermons, and the Reviving of the Traiterous Doctrines of Paſſive-Obedience and Nonreſiſtance. All the Counter-feit Addreſſes of the Faction will never be able by their Falſe Colours of Zeal for the Church and Monarchy to hide the Cloven-foot of *Jacobitiſm* and *Popery*. Theſe Things confirm what is ſaid in the *Glocester* Addreſs, *That the Danger of the Church appear'd from that Quarter that preach'd it up, and ſeconded it by Tumults and Re-bellion.* They alſo confirm what is ſaid in the Noble and Generous Addreſs of our City Lieu-tenancy, *That theſe Tumults have been rais'd and fomented by none but Papiſts, Nonjurors, and other ſuch like Diſaffected Perſons, who aim at the Entire Subverſion of our Preſent Eſtabliſhment.* They likewiſe make good what is ſaid in the Brave, Seaſonable and Loyal, Addreſs of the Ju-ſtices of the Peace, *&c.* of the City of *Weſtmin-ſter*, *That thoſe Seditious Practices, and other At-tempts, have of late been often repeated againſt Her Majeſty's Title and Government, to move and incite the Subjects under Pretence of* Paſſive-Obedience *and* Nonreſiſtance, to Rebellion and Sedition, *and to diſturb the Publick Peace.* I cannot but take Notice, *Roger*, that in thoſe Two laſt Addreſſes the Gentlemen *declare their Abhorrence of the late Tumultuous and Rebellious Riots*; whereas in ano-ther Addreſs, the Contrivers of which are very well known, there is no ſuch Thing; though one might have expected it, conſidering how much their St. *Saviour*'s Chaplain had by his Sermon at St. *Paul*'s contributed to them: A Promiſe to ſuppreſs all Riotous and Tumultuous Aſſemblies for Time to come, ſhould methinks have been accompanied with an Abhorrence of what is already paſt.

*** Whereas Great Endeavours have been us'd by indirect Means to ſtifle this Paper, and to hinder the Sale of it, ſo that Publick Houſes and Gentlemen who wanted it could not have it, they may henceforward be ſupplied with it at N. Crouch, at the Bell in the Poultry; T. Harriſon's, the Corner of Hercules's-Pillars Alley, Royal-Exchange; and G. Gregg, next Door to Northumberland-houſe, near Charing-Croſs, Bookſellers.

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